

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EU110397920US, in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 26, 2002

Signature:

(Beth J. Cobb)

Docket No.: HO-P01880US1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:
Paul M. Ducker, et al.

Application No.: 09/615,978

Group Art Unit: 3761

Filed: July 14, 2000

Examiner: Stephens, J.F.

For: DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE
EMPLOYING AN ABSORBENT COMPOSITE,
AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 26, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 26, 2002, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article comprising:
- a topsheet;
 - a backsheet; and
 - an absorbent core disposed therebetween;
- wherein at least one of said backsheet, topsheet, and absorbent core is constructed of an absorbent composite including
- an absorbent layer of hydratable fine fibers in the form of microfibril obtained from cellulose or a derivative thereof, and super absorbent polymer (SAP) particles bonded together by said hydratable fibers, a coating of mineral oil over the SAP particles of the

07-29-02 3761

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EU110391920US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

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AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the following items for filing in connection with the above-referenced Patent Application:

1. Response to Office Action Mailed April 26, 2002 (14 Pages) and
2. Return Receipt Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P01880US1. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: July 26, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By

Alberto Q. Amatong, Jr.

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